

From: EgaArch2@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/17/02 3:09pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Re: Engulf and Devour

As an educator, a longtime business computer user and a concerned American, I have followed the Microsoft Antitrust proceedings with increasing shock and disbelief. Something must be done. Since the beginning of the proceedings some years back, Microsoft's practices have not changed and its position within the industry is stronger than ever. Their behavior is criminal and should be treated as such. Every time I think we are close to reaching a solution and putting this behind us, the MS monster rears its ugly head again.

The breakup proposal was far from perfect but would have eliminated the most egregious problem by eliminating the conflict of interest created by the leveraging the monopoly power in the OS area to build monopolies in other areas. Yes, it would have created two monopolies in place of one; but would have leveled the playing field on the software end allowing for competitors to make inroads.

Microsoft has repeatedly shown that it is incapable of policing itself and their latest proposal was unbelievable in its naked promotion of self interest, furthering my conviction and that of many Americans that they must be made to face up to past abuses and to admit to wrong doing or be dissolved as a corporate entity.

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